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Subject: Monday/Tuesday news round up

Hi all,

Here are the top stories from Monday and Tuesday of this week.

Thanks,
Megan

Courts Likely To Address TSCA Reform 'Cost-Effectiveness' Requirement

Federal courts are likely to weigh in on how to interpret provisions in the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) reform law that requires EPA to consider cost when developing risk management rules for a chemical, observers say, as environmentalists and the chemical sector are expected to have opposing views on how to assess costs.

Focus Shifts To Implementation Of TSCA Reform

Chemical industry officials, advocates and others are shifting their focus to how EPA will implement the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) reform deal now that President Obama has signed it into law.

EPA to Post Chemicals Law Implementation Plan

The Environmental Protection Agency will post an implementation plan for its activities under the recently amended Toxic Substances Control Act by Friday, Jim Jones, assistant administrator for chemical safety at EPA, said today. He spoke at an American Bar Association luncheon.

EPA to Hold Webinar on Changes to U.S. Chemicals Law

The Environmental Protection Agency will discuss during a June 30 webinar the increased authorities Congress gave it to manage chemicals through amendments made to the Toxic Substances Control Act.

NTP Preparing To Assess Glyphosate's Carcinogenicity In Toxicology Study

The National Toxicology Program (NTP) is preparing to assess the carcinogenicity of glyphosate, the most commonly used herbicide worldwide, amid ongoing debate about EPA's process for re-registration of the chemical and following an international body's finding last year that glyphosate is probably carcinogenic.

NTP scientist Stephanie Smith-Roe said at a June 15 meeting of NTP's Board of Scientific Counselors (BSC) that she and colleagues are preparing to undertake short-term cancer related toxicology tests of glyphosate, including both the active ingredient and a formulation or multiple formulations of the finished product, with an eye to providing information quickly to unnamed decision makers.

EU Confirms 18-Month Glyphosate Authorization Extension

After months of deadlock, the European Commission confirmed today that it will extend until the end of 2017 the European Union authorization of glyphosate, one of the world's most widely used pesticides. European Union Health and Food Safety Commissioner Vytenis Andriukaitis said after a meeting of EU agriculture ministers that the commission, the bloc's executive, will move ahead with a plan to temporarily extend glyphosate's current authorization while the European Chemicals Agency assesses whether the chemical should be classified as carcinogenic.

EAB Weighs EPA's Authority To Restrict Conditional Pesticide Approvals

Judges on EPA's Environmental Appeals Board (EAB) at June 22 oral argument wrestled with the scope of the agency's power to restrict the sale of pesticides already conditionally approved for the marketplace, saying they will seek further information from EPA on the authority that an agency lawyer says is "not explicitly" limited.

Bayer CropScience is urging EAB to overturn EPA Chief Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Susan Biro's [June 1 order](#) that backed the agency's authority to quickly cancel the conditionally registered pesticide flubendiamide using a novel process under section 6(e) of the Federal, Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). Biro also upheld the agency's ban on sales of existing stocks of the pesticide.

Vapor Intrusion Rule Expected to Boost Superfund Legal Work

The EPA's proposal to add vapor intrusion to the Superfund criteria list is already generating increased legal consultations, attorneys say. The rule may also lead to secondary assessment of sites previously determined to be remediated, causing transactional concerns. [More »](#)

RISK ASSESSMENT:

Two persistent perfluorinated chemicals, perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS), can impair the immune system, according to a preliminary National Toxicology Program finding. [More »](#)

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